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Science

Name: _____ Date: _____

Succession

fire	organisms	slow	stable
plants	changes	negative	succession
naturally	fertilizer	Zebra	introduced

Over time, changes take place in an ecosystem. Changes can be fast or slow.

A forest fire can cause a great amount of change quickly. The gradual process of change is called Succession.

Living things change an ecosystem in some way to allow new organisms to thrive. When few changes happen to an ecosystem, it is stable.

Succession begins when plants can become established in an ecosystem. If succession occurs naturally and slowly it can be positive. If succession occurs quickly, it can be negative. For example, if a lot of fertilizer is introduced to an ecosystem, some plants may grow so quickly they take over the ecosystem.